

NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

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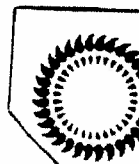
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Offices:
226 and 322 Mackay Science
(702) 784-1723

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John W. James
State Climatologist
Mackay Science Hall
University of Nevada-Reno
Reno, NV 89557



SYNOPSIS

June 1993 was a cool month Statewide, and except for a few small dry areas here and there, it was also wetter than usual. Temperatures in the northern third of Nevada averaged 4 to 6 degrees below long-term normals, while the remainder of the State was in the minus 2 to 4 degree category. The first week of the month was unusually wet and cold in most areas with snow falling down to the 5,000 foot level at many locations. Scattered areas in the southern third of the Silver State, and in the Northwest, had over three times the normal June precipitation.

Water Year precipitation (Oct. 1, 1992 - June 30, 1993) ranges from 2 to 2 1/2 times normal in much of the Extreme South to only 75 to 85 percent of normal in a large area of Central Nevada. East Slope Sierra Nevada Watersheds are generally in the 120 to 130 percent of normal category, with most lakes, ponds, and reservoirs filling for the first time in seven years. Lake Tahoe is a notable exception. Even though a wet winter allowed the Lake to spill over the Tahoe City Dam into the Truckee River for the first time in several years, the unprecedented six year dry spell brought the water level down so far that it would take five more vertical feet of water to fill it. With 3 to 4 feet of evaporation in a normal summer half-year, and with run-off into the Lake now well past the peak, Tahoe will be lowering this summer, and stop flowing over the small Tahoe City Dam again this fall.

TEMPERATURE

Summer was slow in coming in June over most of Nevada, as a more winterlike first week threatened gardens, and caused heaters to go back into use in the North and air conditioners to be turned off in the South. Even with all the cold temperatures the Nevada record June low of 8 degrees set in Belmont in 1891 was not threatened. After a 9" snow storm at 8,300 foot Lee Canyon in the Spring Mountains near Las Vegas, the temperature fell to 18 degrees on the 5th. Nearby Kyle Canyon had 21 degrees the same day. In the Northeast, Charleston also fell to 18 degrees, on the 23rd.

After all the winterlike weather was put to rest early in the month, summer finally got going, with 119 degrees at Cottonwood Cove on the 27th (and ten days of 110 degrees plus), and 115's at Callville Bay, Echo Bay, Boulder Beach and Overton. The June record high is 122 degrees set four times at four

different locations--Overton (1954), Echo Bay (1981), and Laughlin and Cottonwood Cove (1990).

PRECIPITATION

Except for a few scattered locations June was a wet month. In fact, some areas such as Gerlach, Lovelock, Beatty, Goldfield, and Caliente, had over three times the normal precipitation. The wettest reporting sites were Lamoille with 2.90", Jarbidge 2.69", Emigrant Pass 2.67", and Gibbs Ranch 2.63", all in the Northeast. Verdi Peak, in the Far West, had 2.65" and 14" of snowfall. On the short end of the rain gage stick Amargosa Valley had only .02" and Las Vegas .08".

In the dry Central portion of Nevada June was wetter than any of the previous winter months, and breathed new life into many dry rangeland areas.

SUNSHINE, WIND & EVAPORATION

Sunshine hours were near normal Statewide, with Las Vegas having 91 percent of the possible hours (normal = 92%), Reno 84 percent (normal = 85%), Ely 82 percent (normal 80%), and Winnemucca 70 percent (normal = 75%).

Wind speed averages were also near normal this month, with no very strong winds reported.

Due to the cool and wet conditions evaporation was below normal during June. Silverpeak had 15.87" of pan evaporation, with 15.65" at Overton. At Reno UNR there was 8.71", with 8.41" at Shoshone, 7.85" at Honey Lake Fleming, 7.84" at Orovada, 7.70" at Minden, 7.58" at Fallon, 7.28" at Ruby Lake, 6.19" at Beowawe Gund, and 5.88" at Diamond Valley.

NOTE: Nevada's hottest summer? Probably 1931. In July 1931 all time high temperatures that still stand were set at Reno (106), Winnemucca (108), and Las Vegas (118). It was also 107 degrees at Carson City, 108 in Minden and 105 in Austin.

John W. James
State Climatologist

NEVADA

DEPARTURE OF MEAN TEMPERATURE
FROM NORMAL (F°)

CLIMATE STATIONS

JUNE 1993



NEVADA

CLIMATE STATIONS

PERCENTAGE OF NORMAL
PRECIPITATION

JUNE 1993

